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AMATSUKI

by TAKAYAMA Shinobu

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Amatsuki v17 c102

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あまつき 17

高山しのぶ
SHINOBU TAKAYAMA

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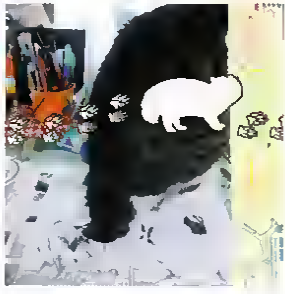
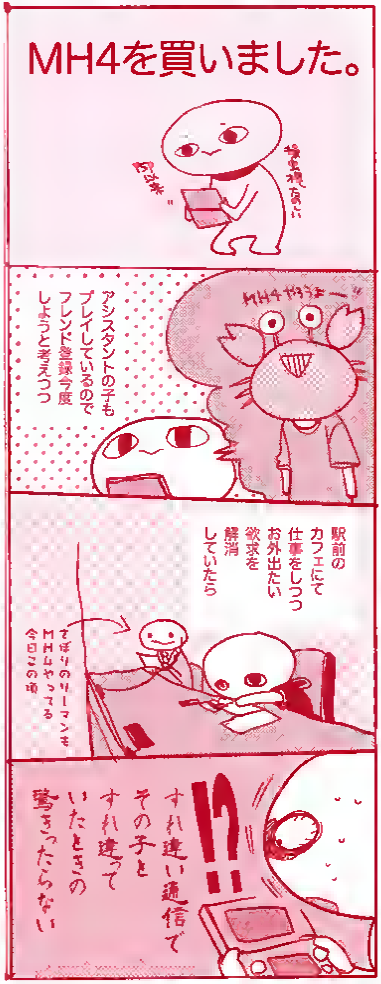


高山しのぶ

SHINOBU TAKAYAMA

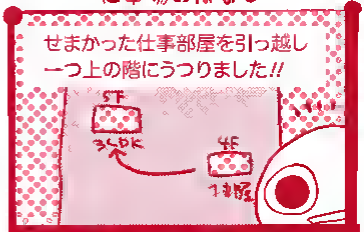
17巻！
やっとここがかけるなという感じです。
次の巻では連載10周年。
思えば遠くにきたものだ…！

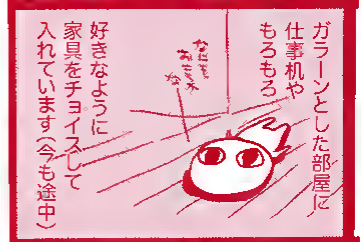


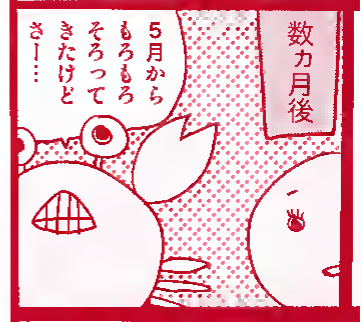
あとでLINEで確認して本人と確認。

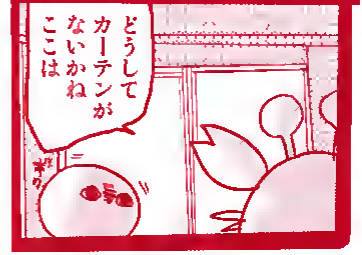
あまつき⑰高山しのぶ

仕事場のはなし



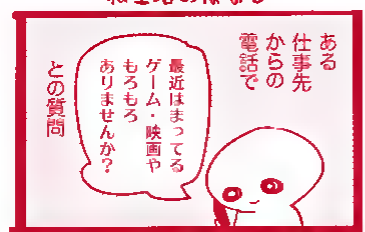


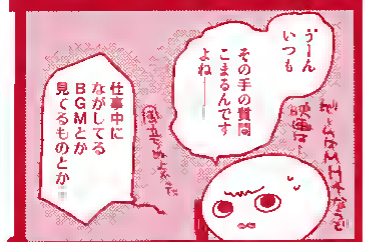


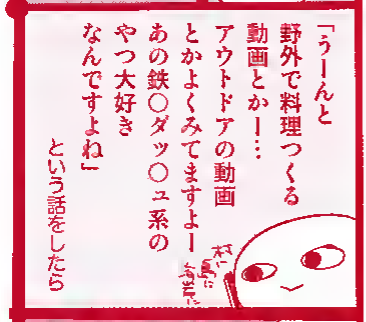


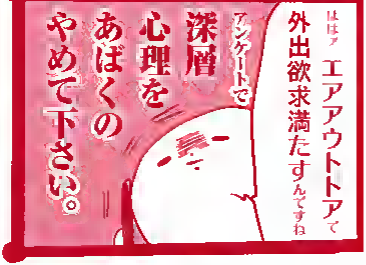
なんとなく変わらないままに…

私生活のはなし









すごくあわれっポイ事ほに…

あまつさ

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Amatsuki 17

Shinobu Takayama

人物紹介

六合鴇時　柔軟な性格の高校生。帝天の定った運命「天網」を書き換える力を持つ「白紙の者」でもある。銀朱の記憶を垣間見たことで、この世界の成り立ちを知った。

篠ノ女紺　こちらに迷い込んだ、鴇時の同級生。この世界の正体を知っており、訳あって姿を隠しながら活動している。

胡儡　坂守神社に勤める坊主。帝天の目を欺こうとした篠ノ女により記憶をコピーされ、紺の体に移されている。

瑞々　半が刑事時代に逮捕した漆原の娘。半が引き取り養育中、父親に人体実験を施されていた。

真朱　坂守神社の主にて先見の力を持つ巫女。この世界を破壊するほどの強大な力を持つ。

銀朱　坂守神社の姫巫女。帝天に造り換えられ、別人になっている。

空五倍子　帝天によって作られた妖。面が割れ、彼岸での鴇時の切り合い、半の記憶を取り戻す。

あらすじ

最先端のCG技術で江戸の町を再現した大江戸幕末巡回展。そこを訪れた鴇時は、妖、夜行と縁に襲われ、幕末の江戸に良く似た異世界に迷い込んでしまった。

白紙の者の力故に、帝天と戦う妖と人の双方から助力を求められた鴇時は、どちらも選ばないことを選んだ。その結果、強力で帝天に挑んだ銀朱は存在を造り換えられ、今までに関わった人々の記憶までも書き換えられてしまう。

憤った鴇時は、帝天に対抗すべく奔走し、人（神社 陰陽寮）と妖（見天 天座）を結び付けるところまで漕ぎ着ける。しかしその矢先、夜行と配下の妖に襲われ、朽葉、真朱、「本当の銀朱の体が夜行の闇にさらわれてしまう。

そんな折、江戸城天守閣が闇に呑まれ、鴇時達は急ぎ江戸城に乗り込む。そこで夜行達妖の姦計を打破する中、空五倍子が鴇時の彼岸での知人・半であることが判明、併せて彼岸や煤竹、将軍・家茂ら彼岸の人間だとわかる。一方、本物の篠ノ女紺から、自分がコピーであることを知らされ動揺する紺。元の胡儡に戻るのを拒否した紺は、鴇時達に正体を隠しながら同行する。

江戸城攻略の要、上野にたどり着いた鴇時は、紺の助言により白鳳の力で朽葉を救い出す。そして弁天堂の上空には銀朱達の姿が…

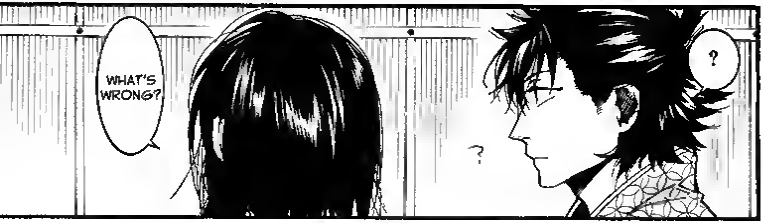
CHAPTER 102
A CUCKOO, SINGING TO THE MOON - 5

T/N: TAKEN FROM THE HAIKU POEM "HITOKOE WA, TSUKI GA HAITA RA HOTOTOGISU" ("THAT VOICE, SINGING TO THE MOON, A CUCKOO?"), WHICH WAS APPARENTLY AN ALLEGORY FOR EDO IN THE EARLY SUMMER. THE LESSER CUCKOO (HOTOTOGISU) HAS BEEN USED AS A SYMBOL IN JAPANESE POETRY FOR CENTURIES, PARTICULARLY FOR ITS BEAUTIFUL SONG WHICH CAN REPRESENT ANYTHING FROM JOY, TO LOVE, TO SORROW. HOWEVER, THE POEM IS SOMETHING OF A PARADOX, SINCE CUCKOOS RARELY SING AT NIGHT

...WOW, AMA-ZING ...
THE POND LOOKS COM-PLETELY DIFFER-ENT..
THE LOTUS-ES ARE SHINING

T/N: SHUTEN DOUJI, A DEMON FROM JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY. THE SECOND PART OF HIS NAME MEANS "CHILD."

ELECTRIC SHOCK. ELECTRIC SHOCK.
POOR CHILD.
YOU POOR CHILD.
PITIFUL.
PITIFUL.
THIS POND IS FILLED WITH THE TEARS OF CHILDREN WHO MISS THEIR PARENTS.
POOR CHILD.
POOR CHILD
THIS SONG
IT'S FROM WHEN SASAKI-SAN FIRST VISITED SHAMON-SAN'S TEMPLE.
THE ONE SUNG BY THAT DOLL HE BORROWED FROM THE HOLY PRINCESS... GINSHU-SAN.
BACK THEN THE SONG WAS ABOUT ME,
BUT WHO'S IT SINGING ABOUT NOW?



IT'S LIKE OUR FIRST VISIT TO SAKAGAMI SHRINE.

TIMES MAY BE HARD, THE SITUATION RISKY...

WE ARE SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE.

THERE WERE ONLY THREE OF US WHEN WE STARTED OUT ON THIS PATH
.....
BUT WE GOT HERE BECAUSE OF THE BONDS WE FORMED ALONG THE WAY.

THOUGH I DON'T KNOW THE CORRECT ANSWER..
THOUGH SO MANY HAVE BEEN HURT...
I KNOW FOR SURE
THAT THIS PATH WAS NOT THE WRONG ONE.
OUR AIM IS TO REACH THAT BENTEN-DO OVER THERE.

T/N: A SMALL TEMPLE DEDICATED TO BENZAITEN, GODDESS OF WEALTH, WISDOM AND MUSIC.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO? IF THE YAKOU'S COMING
THEN I WANNA TAG ALONG, BUT—
I'LL REMAIN HERE TO NURSE THE WOUNDED
AH,
I'M...
SO WILL WE...
GOING WITH YOU
HASHITA-SAN?
WHAT'S UP, HASHITA-SAN?
SOME-THING ON YOUR MIND..?
THERE S NOTHING HERE.
.....
——?
clench
YOUR CONNECTION TO THAT PRIESTESS, RIGHT?
...YEAH.

Okay!
Ehehe.
Let's all go toge-ther~
YEEP! WAIT!

I'LL GO
KON.
THOUGHT YOU'D SAY THAT..
I knew it

WHAT?
THINK I'D STAY BEHIND NOW...?
NOT AT ALL.
NOT AT ALL

HOW CRUEL!
GET LOST!
YOU PISS ME OFF!
SUCH BAD HUMOUR!
GROSS!

I HAD A LOT OF FRIENDS.
WE GOT ALONG WELL AND NEVER FOUGHT.
HOW-EVER... I THOUGHT THAT WAS HOW IT SHOULD BE

These kinds of awkward and stormy relationships
make me really happy.
Because they broaden your mind in return.
SPLASH
Shin-shu-chan
is unstable since she carries great power
I wonder if you're there too.
Losing Ginshu made her reject everything
She closed herself off from the world, just like I did in Nirvana.

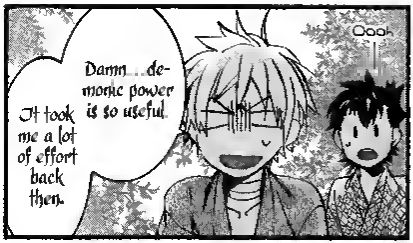
SO THAT I CAN FORGET THE PAIN OF LOSING
THE STRENGTH TO LIVE.
I PLACE IT IN A DOLL
MY SOUL CANNOT SUSTAIN ITSELF, THEREFORE
WHICH MEANS . . .
PRINCESS... IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?
IF THE PAIN IS TOO MUCH TO BEAR...
I NO LONGER FEAR PAIN.
THE BODY MADE TO TRANSFER MY LIFE
IS A DOLL, AFTER ALL..
I RETAIN MY LIFE
BUT SOMEDAY, I WILL PROBABLY CEASE TO BE MYSELF
HOW STRANGE. FEAR AND JOY, BITTERNESS AND PLEASURE
EVERY-THING IS A HAZE
BECAUSE SHINOBU WAS STUPID!
IT WAS SHINOBU!
THE PRINCESS WASN'T TO BLAME!
BREAK THE CURSE!
FOR HER YOUNG MIND THAT SANK INTO DARKNESS.
I HAVE TO GO LOOK FOR HER.

IT'S WHAT THEY WOULD HAVE WANTED
SO IN TOTAL,
SIX PEOPLE ARE GOING AHEAD..!
A STRAIGHT ROAD AHEAD..
GOTTA BE CAREFUL OF ANYTHING COMING FROM THE LEFT OR RIGHT

hurrying
hurrying
hurrying
hurrying
CO...
COULD
THIS
BE..?
pant
pant
IT'S A
LONG
WAY
...?
?

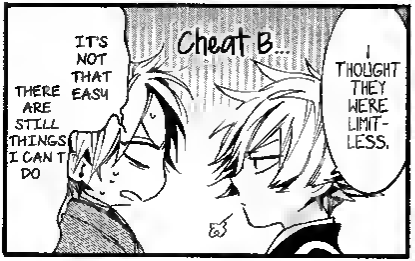
A SPELL TO MISLEAD US, HUH?
OF COURSE IT IS.
?
Volume 1
Are we following the same road as before...?
AH, NO,
DON'T WORRY
?
amazed
BACK THEN, WE OVERCAME THE SPELL BY LOOKING AT THE SUN...
Hmm what to do?
BUT THERE'S NO SUN, SO
WE WEREN'T LOST IN THE FIRST PLACE IT'S A DEMON PATH.
TSUYU-KUSA.
GOT IT.
shing

TSK
PHEW


Damn...demonic power is so useful.
It took me a lot of effort back then.
Oooh

ドラララ

YOUR POWERS CAN BE USEFUL TOO
WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?


Cheat B...
IT'S NOT THAT EASY
THERE ARE STILL THINGS I CAN'T DO
I THOUGHT THEY WERE LIMITLESS.

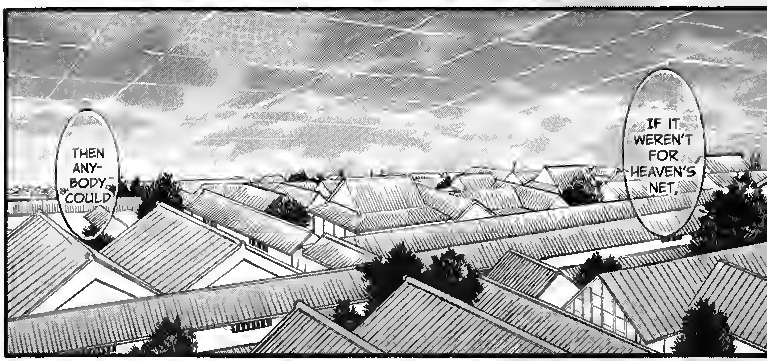
THE SITUATION IN YOUR FAVOUR AT ANY TIME, RIGHT?
COULD THERE BE A MORE USEFUL POWER?
YOU CAN TWIST
IS IT SUCH A BIG DEAL...?
!?

Haha ha, sure it's not.
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!
BON-TEN?
!!
Those are Bonten's words.
UH
...WELL ...WHEN YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT, I GUESS.. BUT...

IS BOTH YOUR GREATEST WEAPON AND GREATEST DEFENCE HERE IN AMATSUKI
MEANING THAT THE KNOW-LEDGE YOU'VE ACQUIRED
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN YOURSELF, HOW CAN YOU BELIEVE IN ANY-THING?
YEAH.

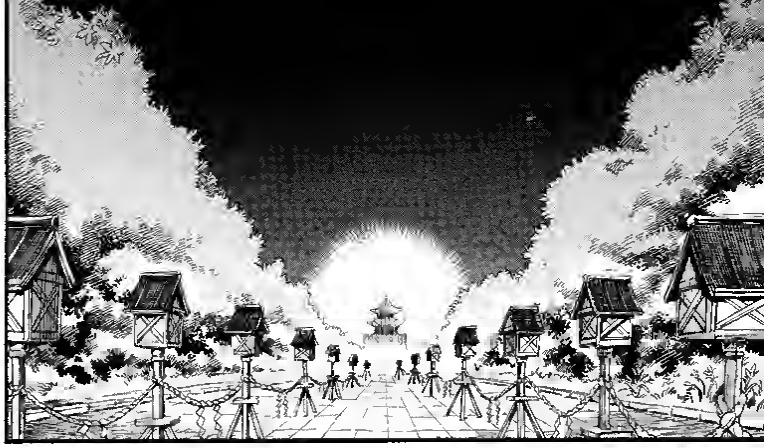
Shamon-san said the same thing
In the time you were there
casting even a single pebble
would have changed the shape of the world
That's not it.
Personally, I think world-changing powers
don't exist anywhere except inside oneself
Those words are finally sinking in.
The powers of the unwritten page are very similar, you see.
Yeah.
Similar...
No
Is that why he became Bonten?

THE WORLD CAN CHANGE EVEN WITHOUT THAT SPECIAL FEATURE.



BECOME AN "UNWRITTEN PAGE".

gri
gulp
ALL RIGHT
"What are you thanking me for?"
"So you feel at ease again now?"
THANKS, TSUYU-KUSA!
I FEEL AT EASE AGAIN.
!?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? LET'S GO.
BWA HA HA HA!



IS THIS ROAD THE REAL ONE THEN?
LET ME THROUGH.
LET ME THROUGH.
WHERE DOES THIS NARROW PATH LEAD?

IT'S THE NARROW PATH TO TENJIN SHRINE.
I COME BEARING A TALISMAN
TO CELEBRATE MY CHILD'S SEVENTH BIRTHDAY.
GETTING THERE IS EASY.
COMING BACK IS SCARY.

LET ME THROUGH.
LET ME THROUGH.
EVEN IF IT'S SCARY
WE PLANNED TO GO THROUGH FROM THE START, YOU KNOW!
WHY THE HELL ARE THEY SINGING TOORY-ANSE?
EXISTS BEYOND THIS PLACE.
GIUSHU-SHIMA
SLOWLY
HOW DARE YOU COME HERE
EH?
ARE YOU THE YAKOU'S FRIEND? OR THE TENGU'S UNDER-LING?

...NO WAY. IT'S A TSURUUME-SAN DOLL!!
CLICK
CLICK
YOU FILTHY AYA-KASHI.
WAIT, WHAT HAPPENED NEXT WAS...
ゴゴ
ゴゴ
HOW DO YOU LIKE BEING TRAPPED BY YOUR OWN SHADOWS?

"What are you thanking me for?"
"So you feel at ease again now?"

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by TAKAYAMA Shinobu

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CHAPTER 103
THE CUCKOO THAT SINGS TO THE MOON – 6

I MISSED.
DAMN IT.
OPEN
WHO'S THERE!
THAT'S MY LINE, YOU VULGAR DEMONS.
WHETHER YOU'RE FRIENDS OF THE YAKOU OR LACKIES OF THE TENGU,
HOW DARE YOU SET FOOT INTO THIS PLACE!!

I STILL REMEMBER THE TIME WE FIRST WENT TO THE SAKAGAMI SHRINE.

DAMN IT.

I MISSED.

JUST LIKE THAT TIME, THESE PUPPETS STAND BEFORE US.
YOU VULGAR DEMONS
YOU WILL BE CAPTURED BY YOUR OWN SHADOWS.

WHOA. WHAT THE HELL ARE THOSE?
THAT'S ...
A WHILE BACK, JUST LIKE THEY SAID, BY OUR OWN SHADOWS.
WAAH
WAAH
THIS TIME, IT'S —...
WHERE HAVE I SEEN THIS BEFORE ...?
shine
rumble
THAT'S
AAH!!
A WHILE BACK, THE PRINCESS DEFEATED THE SNAKE DEMON BUT THE STATE SHE'S BEEN PUT IN IS TERRIBLE, ISN'T IT..?
OK AT AT'S COME HER OW

...WHAT'S THIS? HM? THIS PLACE IS... WHERE AM I?
glance
I WAS CERTAIN I WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF COOKING AT THE TEMPLE...
WHAT'S THIS, ROKUGOU-SAN. WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
!?
SHOCK
WHAT THE..!? UP UNTIL NOW THE PUPPETS WERE...
THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE ENCOUNTER WITH THE UNGAIKYOU
OOH!
IF IT ISN'T TOKI.
WHOA~!
HM?
IT'S THE HAKU-TAKU, TSUYU-KUSA, EVEN BON.

GINSHA-SAN'S... NO, BYAKURO-KU-SAN'S BODY...!!
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
SHAMON-SAN... SASAKI-SAN!!
.... HUH?
THOSE WERE COPIES YOU MEAN THEY WEREN'T THE REAL ONES!?

GYAAA— THE WAY HE TALKS IS EXACTLY THE SAAAME
? IS SOMETHING WRONG?
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON, THERE'S ANOTHER ME!?
—WHA
IT'S ALMOST AS IF THE REAL THINGS ARE STANDING BEFORE US.
EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE PUPPETS.
Uuu...
WHAT'S WITH THIS REAL SENSATION I'M FEELING!?

THOSE TWO OVER THERE
THAT UTSU-BUSHI-SAN AND
TH...THIS IS GOING TO BE DIFFICULT DAMN IT...
.....
EVEN BONTEN
AH, NOW I SEE.
GASP
IF IN FACT UTSUBUSHI-SAN IS...
TSUYU-KUSA?
BON?
THEY'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR SO MANY YEARS.
GASP
THEIR ATTACH-MENT WOULD...

IF IT ISN'T TOKI? WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' OVER THERE?
OH?
I'M KIND OF STARV-ING...
SHOCK
...
-AH...
!!
HE
HEY..
!!
TOKI...

-THIS IS JUST UNFAIR.
TO RE-MEMBER SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
MY VIVID MEMORIES OF THAT TIME ARE DISTANT
I WAS SO CLOSE TO FORGET-TING.
IN THE CORNER OF MY MEMORY LIES A NOSTAL-GIC FEELING FROM BEFORE.
YOU LOT JUST DON'T LEARN.
AGAIN WITH BOR-ROWING OTHERS' APPEAR-ANCES
BUT, TO BE ABLE TO ACTUALLY DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT IS...
SHUU
SHUU

GOT IT
DESTROY THEM, TSUYU-KUSA.
TCH...
TSUYU-KUSA.
WAAH WAAH —!!
WAIT WAIT WAIT A SECOND
SWISH
Gah

!?
...!
?
HEI
HACHI
CRY
That was mean, Tsuyukusa ...
That hurt ...
GASP
!
EH
UH
flinch
thrust
YOU HOOLIGAN!! YOU NEED TO FIX THAT HABIT OF YOURS WHERE YOU START HITTING PEOPLE RIGHT OFF THE BAT!
HE'S NOT... ATTACK-ING?
!?

WHA-
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE
THOSE PEOPLE, IN ACTUALITY ARE...
TOKI..?
NO
THERE ARE TWO OF ME.
GLANCE
BON
TSUYU-KUSA?
WHAT'S WITH THOSE SCARY LOOKING FACES?
AM I A FAKE...?

HASHITA-SAN!?
WHAT...
...BUT JUST THINK ABOUT IT, TOKI
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I VIEW THEM AS COMRADES...
.NO MATTER HOW MUCH I WANT TO PROTECT THEM,
LOOK-ING AT IT FROM THEIR PER-SPECTIVE
SOME OLD GUY THEY DON'T KNOW POPPED UP OUT OF NOWHERE
THE ONE THAT WAS ALWAYS WITH THEM WAS THAT UTSUBUSHI
TO THEM, I AM UNNECES-SARY
IN THAT CASE,
WOULD THAT MAKE THE ONES OVER THERE THE REAL-!
OLD MAN

ALL THAT MATTERS IS WHAT YOU WANT TO DO.
WHETHER SOMETHING IS REAL OR FAKE, IT DOESN'T MATTER EITHER WAY.
NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, IF THE BOTH OF YOU ARE TOKI'S ALLIES,
RATHER, IN REGARDS TO YOU,
THEN I THINK IT'S FINE
NOT TRYING TO TAKE ANYTHING AWAY FROM WHAT YOU SAID, BUT AREN'T YOU RIGHT HERE?
YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO ACCOMPLISH.

THAT'S WHY I'M NOT GOIN' TO FALTER EITHER.
KON IS...
I AM ALSO REAL!
KON?

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AMATSUKI

by TAKAYAMA Shinobu

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Amatsuki v17 c104

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對自己的存在充滿疑惑的新……

也許我的確不是……雛之女甜……

即便如此「我」也不是一個不被需要的存在吧

翻譯:neverland
翻譯:明見草
校對:渡久地被媽
制圖:山雨欲來風滿樓

It may be true that I am not "Shinonome Kon".
But even so, that doesn't mean this "me" is useless.

単行本第16巻、大好評発売中――！
キャラクターを占いで大解剖した
小冊子付き限定版もどうぞ――！
宛如怒放的鮮花。
あまつき
一百零四夜：子規啼月・八
高山しのぶ
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CHAPTER 104
THE CUCKOO THAT SINGS TO THE MOON – 7

You Bas-tard!
Angry
hmph!
You have no right to talk back to me.

Like the other me said,
?
When you're away from the shrine
That's when you'll disappear.
The real me seemed to think it was strange for me to be here.
I'm coming too.
I'll definitely find out my identity.
If that's the case,
For the Toki that got me back on my feet,
And because he said there's a reason for me to be here.
Then doesn't that mean the one that has something to do is that guy over there?
Using people at his own convenience and then returning...

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE SAYING ...?
I
WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO OBEY HIM!!
TOKI, YOU KNOW ..
... KON?
I HEARD

I AM NOT SHINONOME KON
THAT
FROM KOSEN,
...EH?
WELL, OF COURSE YOUR MEMORIES FROM THE KON BEFORE ARE DIFFERENT, BUT-
THAT'S NOT IT.
I DON'T KNOW THE EXACT DETAILS, BUT,
..I SAW HIM WITH MY OWN EYES.

Aside from me, there is one more.
The "Shino-nome" that you know,
HUH?
—
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING
IT'S TRUE.
THE GUY WHO LOOKS LIKE ME OVER THERE GOT SEPARATED FROM KON AND SHINONOME

The "Shino-nome" you know,
Aside from me, there is one more.
In that forest,
I met him once.
GASP!!!
AH...!!
THAT GUY AND I SWITCHED PLACES
nod
AT THAT TIME...
WHEN KON SEEMED TO ACT A BIT STRANGE...!!

WHILE HIS MEMORIES ARE SHARED WITH ME, SECRETLY,
...THIS PLACE'S "KON" HAD WANTED TO RETURN.
BUT I REFUSED.
SORRY
...NO.
WHA-
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING?
YOUR WISH FOR SALVATION AND
THE MANY THINGS THAT GUY KNOWS ABOUT THIS WORLD.
MOST LIKELY, THAT GUY "KON" WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SOMEONE WITH A POWER LIKE YOURS
..HOWEVER, I AM...

AH!!
WE HAVE NO NEED FOR YO...
THERE'S STILL THE MATTER OF HAVING MY OWN PRIDE
...EVEN IF I AM A FAKE
serious
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN MUTTERING FOR A WHILE NOW?
GAH
UGH

EXTER-MINATING APPARITIONS, THAT IS
SINCE I AM KOSEN, WHAT I'M BEST AT HAS GOT TO BE THIS,
rustle
BASICALLY, REMEMBERING THE METHODS TO DIS-PELLING CURSES!
IN PARTI-CULAR
THE TECHNIQUES THAT TSURUME-SAN USES ARE THE SAME
I MIMICKED THE SAME TECHNIQUES BUT IT LOOKS LIKE IT FAILED!!
YOU BAS-TARD ...!!

RETURN TO A PIECE OF WOOD...!!

HEY, ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME TSUYUKUSA?
WAAAAH!? WHAT'S GOING ON?!
THE TECHNIQUE IS FADING...
TSU
YU
FLINCH
TSU-YU
LISTEN TO ME.
FLINCH
TSU TSU TSU TSU TSU
exhale

ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
W-
WAAAH
GAAH

Exhale
!
!
!
.....
.....
Crumble
Crumble
!
UTSU-
BUSHI
....
!
gulp
.....
.....

.....
....JUST AS I THOUGHT...
BON....
!
WHA-
WHAT IS?
IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE AFTER ALL.
IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS EVER HOPING FOR SOMETHING IN RETURN.
I WANTED TO GO BACK.
I WONDER SINCE WHEN...
IT SOUNDS STUPID, RIGHT?
I HAD SOMETHING TO PROTECT
THAT'S WHY, DEFINITELY.
....THAT GUY TOO.

I will be the one to return —something like that.
...MASTER,
?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
EVEN THAT GUY...
IT WASN'T... JUST FOR DON?
YOU SEE, I HAD A BRAT,
I DEARLY, DEARLY TREASURED HER.
I TREASURED HER LIKE A PRIZED POSSESSION.
SHE DIDN'T HAVE PARENTS.
HER REAL PARENTS WERE HORRIBLE,
SO THAT'S WHY INSTEAD...!

It wasn't
That's why she ended up that way.

I WAS MORE SUITABLE TO BE HER PARENT-
OR SO I BELIEVED
clench
AND THAT CHILD WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE THOUGHT THE SAME.

W-
WASN'T THAT THE CASE...?
THAT CHILD DEFINITE-LY...
c
c
No,

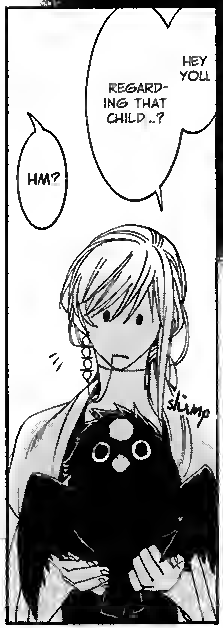
THAT HURT
TSUYU-KUSA!?

WHAT'S WITH THAT WEAK EXPRESSION? THAT GUY SAID IT EARLIER, DIDN'T HE?

WHAT ARE YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT.
YOU OLD MAN!
OOF!

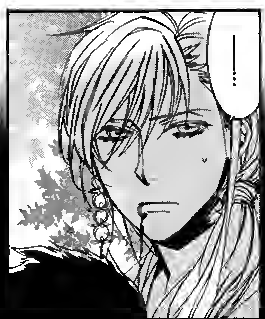
YOU'RE NEITHER REAL NOR A FAKE.
YOU HAVE YOUR OWN CIRCUMS-TANCES
CALM DOWN. WE CAN DEFINE YOU WITH AN EASY TO REMEMBER NAME.
DON'T MAKE THINGS SO COMPLICATED

BEING SOMEONE'S REPLACE-MENT
WOULD MAKE ME FEEL MIS-ERABLE.
I AM ME.
AREN'T YOU ALSO YOU, OLD MAN?
.....
IS THAT SO...
THAT'S SO, ISN'T IT.


HEY YOU
REGARDING THAT CHILD..?
HM?
shimo

BON,
DON'T MAKE THAT FACE
TOSS
HERE.
EVEN THAT GUY IS LIKE YOUR UTSUBUSHI.

...SOMEDAY YOU'LL UNDERSTAND.
GLANCE


!!!

I AM TOO
MORE OR LESS,

WITH-
OUT
A
DOUBT,
SOON
SQUISH
!!!
TOKI?
WHAT'S
WRONG?
LETS
MOVE ON
AHEAD

"Shi Nono Me" is
certainly someone who knows a lot of various things, but it didn't feel like he could use techniques as easily as this
Because of Teiten's reset, it's not that strange that Kon was able to use a skill that he didn't have previously, but. .
... But Kon referred to himself as "Kosen"...
!!

If I think of him as a different person, I would be able to understand.

CONTINUING TOWARDS THE PLACE TO DIG UP OUR MEMORIES;

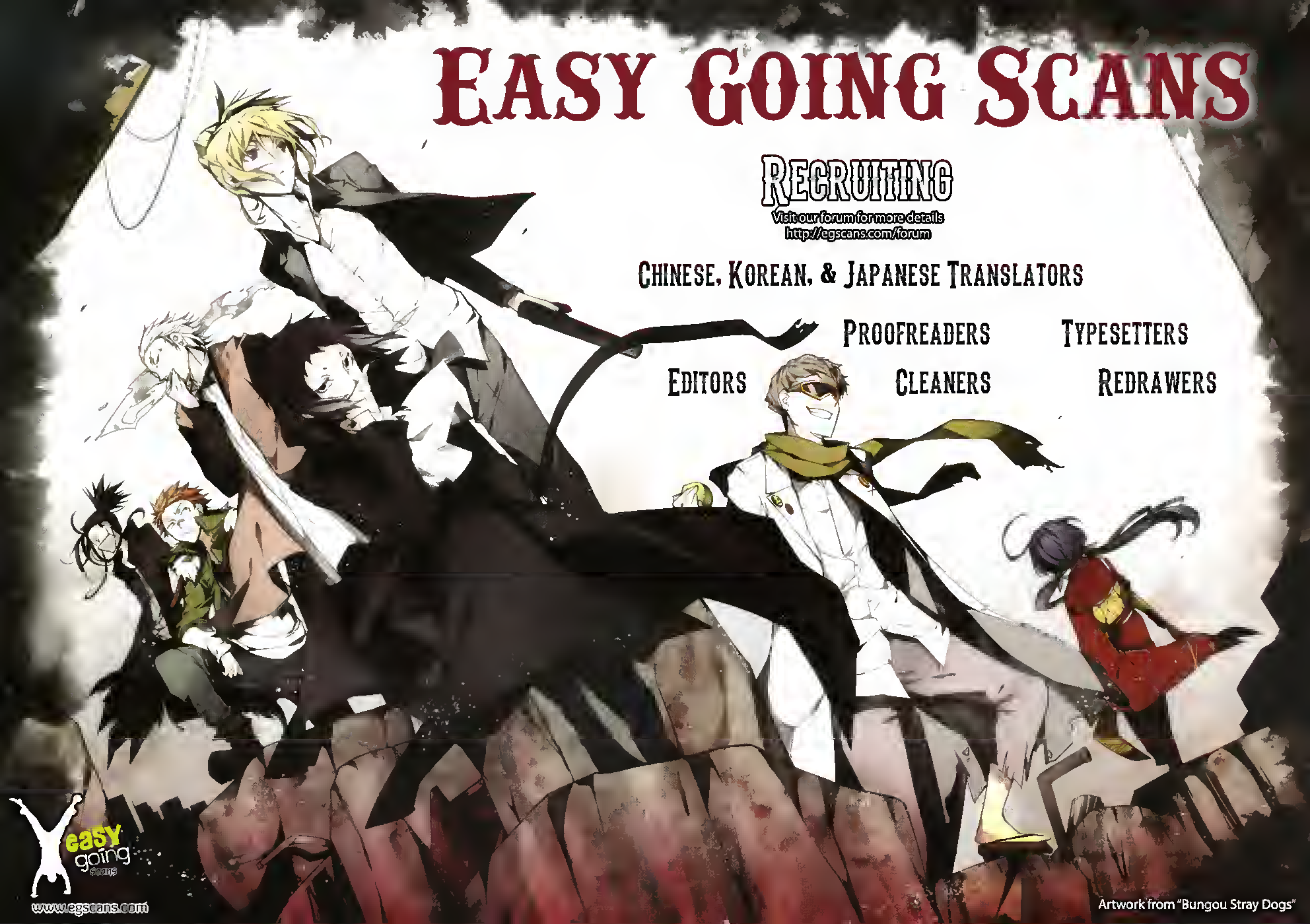
AND THEN REMEMBERING. NOT ABOUT "KON", BUT RATHER "SHINONOME".

KON'S MEMORY SHINO-NOME'S BODY.
I WASN'T ME.
I HAD
WITHOUT A DOUBT, THE SITUATION IS SIMILAR TO GINSHU-SAN.

IF GINSHU-SAN AND BYAKU-ROKU-SAN HAD BEHAVED IN THIS MANNER.
EVEN IF THERE WERE TWO KON'S
AND IF KON WASN'T KON, BUT SOMEONE ELSE WAS IN KON'S BODY, IT WOULDN'T SEEM STRANGE.

EVEN THOUGH UTSUBUSHI-SAN APPEARS TO HAVE SPLIT INTO TWO PEOPLE...
COULD THAT SITUATION BE THE SAME...?
THAT DOES SEEM LIKE A POSSI-BILITY
THEN, THE REAL... NO...
WHERE DID THE ORIGINAL SHINO-NOME GO?
...NOW THEN
I HADN'T KNOWN ABOUT WHAT "KOSEN" TALKED ABOUT, BUT, LIKE GINSHU-SAN
HIM SHOWING ME HIS TECHNIQUES ALLOWED ME TO AFFIRM HIS SITUATION
...YOU ARE KOSEN... NOT KON
IN YOUR STORY, YOU MENTIONED BEING CONFINED, AND THE ONE WHO REACHED OUT AND GRABBED MY HAND WAS NONE OTHER THAN YOU...
CERTAINLY, IF YOU DID NOT HAVE SHINONOME'S APPEARANCE, I PROBABLY WOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN MYSELF INVOLVED, BUT,

An important friend of mine.
Even so, Kon...
No,
Kosen is
YEAH.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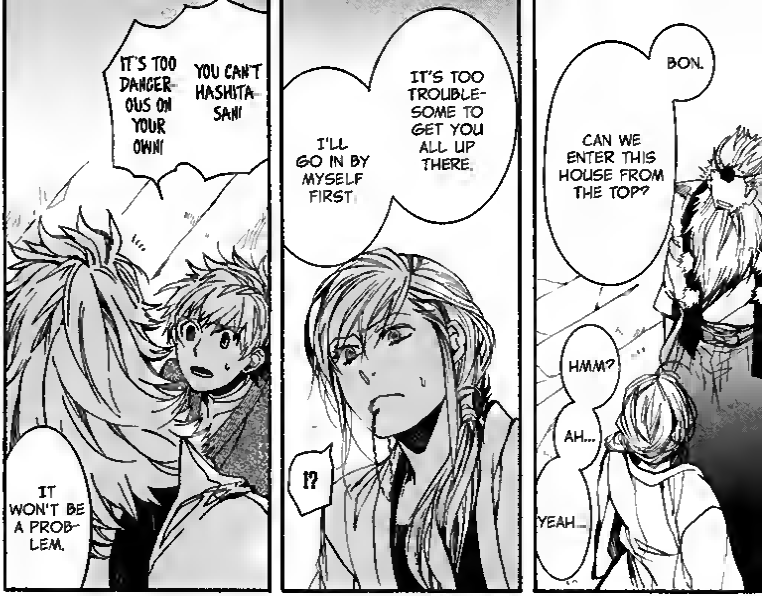
THE HEXAGONAL CASTLE,

WHICH FLOATS IN THE POND,

NIGHT 105
A CUCKOO, SINGING TO THE MOON -8

IS RATHER BEAUTIFUL, IN STARK CONTRAST TO THE DANGEROUS ROUTE.

step step
TELLS ME.
OBVIOUSLY, MY EXPERIENCE...
EH?
OLD MAN.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
HMM?
I THINK
PERHAPS THE ONLY WAY IN IS FROM ABOVE.
AH?
!
LET'S SEE...
WHAT IS THAT IN THE CENTER THERE?
The lotus flowers are shining...
So pretty
I CAN'T FIND IT ANYWHERE.
turn
WHERE'S THE ENTRANCE? THIS BUILDING...
!



*TL NOTE - A BUDDHIST TEMPLE FOR BENTEN, GOODESS OF WEALTH, HAPPINESS, WISDOM AND MUSIC.

It's the most sickening place I've ever seen in my entire life.
!?

Wings are necessary.
I'll give them to you

flap
OH?
AREN'T WE GOING UP?

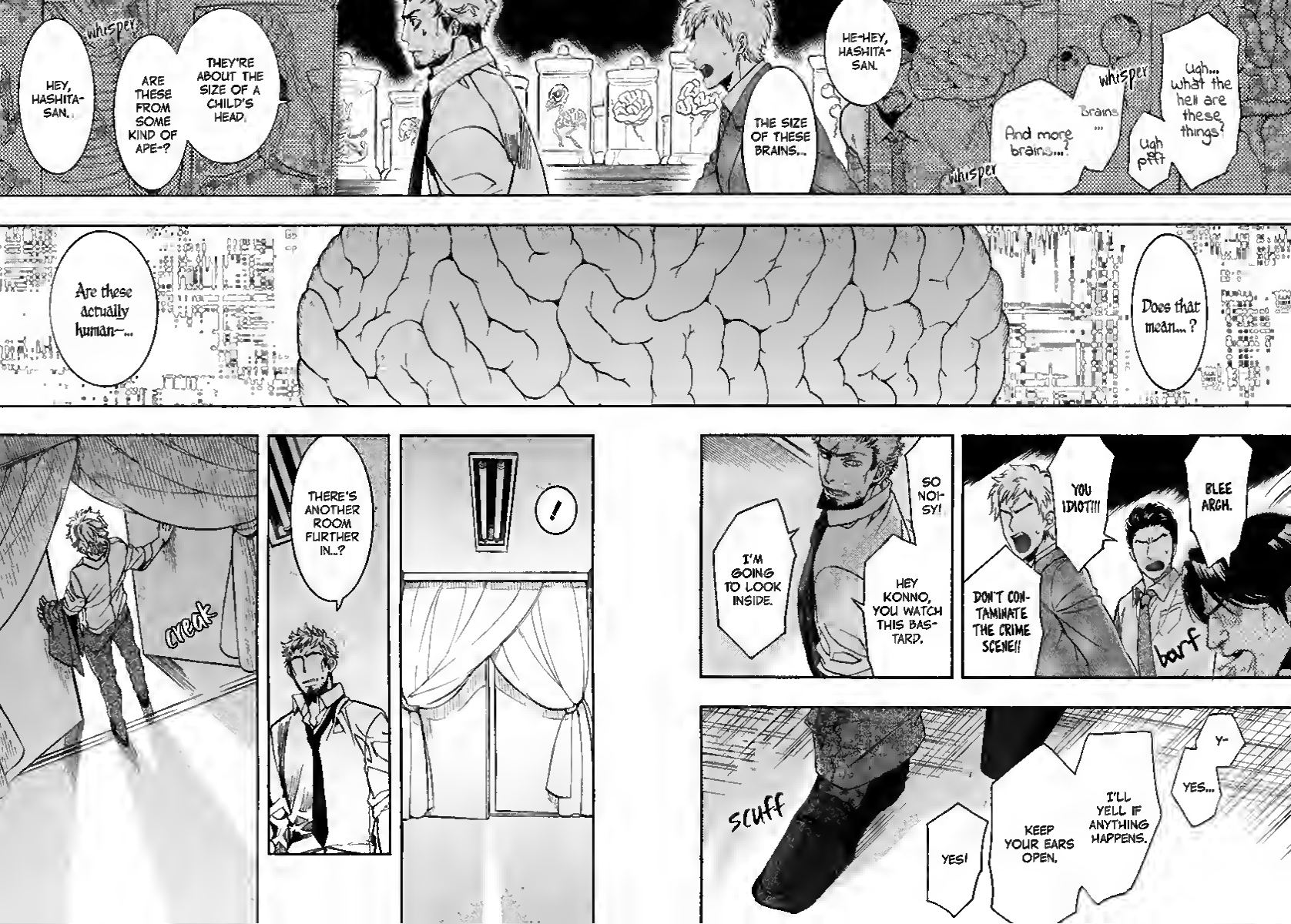
ALL RIGHT.

CARRYING OTHERS IS YOUR RESPONSI-BILITY.

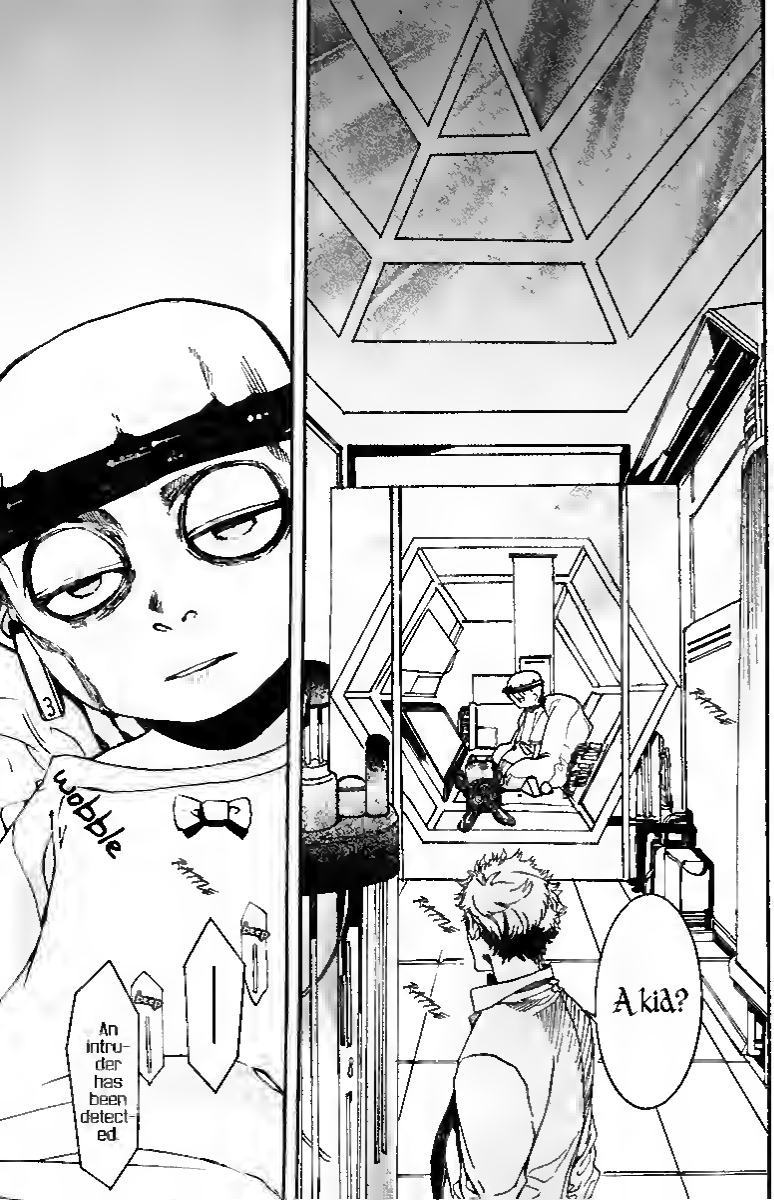
LET'S GO, TOKI!
O-
OKAY...
flap
SAY,
TOKI...
I TOLD YOU EARLIER, RIGHT?
I RESIGNED FROM THE POLICE FORCE TO BECOME SOMETHING LIKE A SPY
HM? WHAT?
YEAH.. YOU WERE INVESTIGATING THAT "THOUSAND YEAR CORPORATION", RIGHT?
RIGHT ...

THE POLICE FORCE
BUT I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU WHY I RESIGNED FROM
BESIDES NUMEROUS ENCOUNTERS WITH THOSE BASTARDS...
VIOLENT HOOLIGANS, JUVENILE DELINQUENTS, AND RUNAWAY KIDS...
WHEN I WAS STILL AN ORDINARY MAN,
VOMIT
ONE DAY, I SAW WITH MY OWN EYES...
AT THIS TIME, I'M SURE THAT'S HOW YOU'LL SEE IT, BUT PLEASE LISTEN--..
IT'S A RATHER SHAMEFUL MEMORY...

THESE ARE...
WHAT...
bubble
NO AMOUNT OF HOOLIGANS COULD COM-PARE...
I
TO THIS SORT OF MADNESS


HEY, HASHITA-SAN.
whispery
ARE THESE FROM SOME KIND OF APE-?
THEY'RE ABOUT THE SIZE OF A CHILD'S HEAD.
HE-HEY, HASHITA-SAN.
THE SIZE OF THESE BRAINS...
whispery
And more brains...?
Brains...
Ugh pfft
Ugh... what the hell are these things?
Are these actually human-...
Does that mean...?
creak
THERE'S ANOTHER ROOM FURTHER IN...?
!
I'M GOING TO LOOK INSIDE.
SO NOI-SY!
HEY KONNO, YOU WATCH THIS BAS-TARD.
YOU IDIOT!!!
BLEE ARGH.
DON'T CON-TAMINATE THE CRIME SCENE!!
barf
scuff
KEEP YOUR EARS OPEN.
YES!
I'LL YELL IF ANYTHING HAPPENS.
Y-
YES...

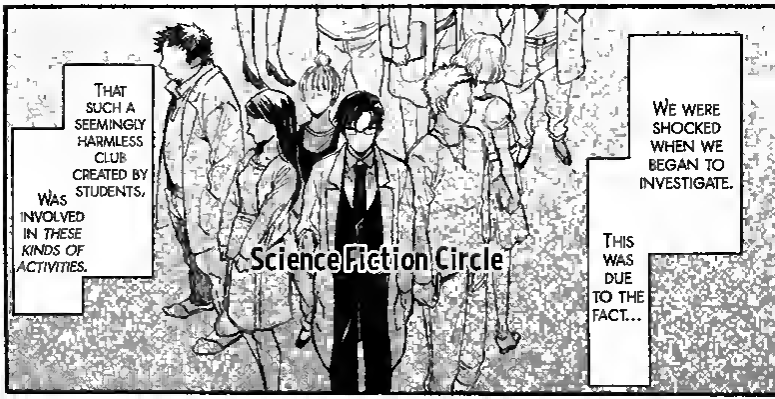
!
!!!
Ahh?


wobble
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
An intruder has been detected.
A kid?

...
Hey.
H..
ARE YOU OKAY? I'M A COP...
A POLICE-MAN...
DO YOU UNDER-STAND ME?
AND... DO YOU KNOW ANYONE NAMED URUSHIBARA?
I'M HERE TO LOOK FOR HIM
IS THIS THE CHILD FROM THE REPORT?
GREAT, HE'S STILL ALIVE...
THAT CAN'T BE HOW OLD IS THIS KID!? HE'S STILL A BABY...
!!!
!?
I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY GOT A TODDLER IN HERE. I NEED TO LOOK INTO THE SECURITY AT THE...

DOES THIS MEAN...
THESE CHILDREN ARE...!!

Last month, we received an anonymous report.
"There's a group of people
Using children for human experiments".
The reporter was very frightened. He only mentioned the university and the name "Urushibara". Afterwards, he never contacted the police again


We were shocked when we began to investigate.
This was due to the fact...
Science Fiction Circle
That such a seemingly harmless club created by students,
Was involved in *these kinds of activities.*

Under some circumstances, science can be unethical.
The sanctity of life, The glory of gods.
I once discussed something interesting with a child who wasn't even 10 years old.
I often talked with him in the chat-rooms.
He was smart and had the creative imagination found only in children.
Everything he said offered a new perspective.

I am...
Not here to listen to your harangue...
Uru-shibara Akemi.
THEY AREN'T BOUND BY COMMON SENSE, OR EVEN GOOD SENSE THEY CAN HAVE NEW THOUGHTS
THIS IS...
EVERY ADULT MUST COMPLY WITH THE SOCIAL ORDER
THAT'S WHAT THE CHILD SAID CHILDREN DON'T HAVE THESE KINDS OF RIGID, DULL CONCEPTS
HE USED THE GOD-LIKE POWERS OF IMAGINATION WHICH WE ADULTS END UP LOSING
THE ONE AND ONLY KEY TO THE DOORS OF HUMAN EVOLUTION.
I'M TELL-ING YOU...

YOUTH-
FUL-
NESS...
EASILY CROSSED INTO A FORBIDDEN REALM.
WHAT GAVE ME THE DEEPEST IMPRESSION WAS...
WELL, DO YOU BELIEVE SCIENCE IS LIKE A RELIGIOUS FAITH?
FOR EXAMPLE, ATOMS AND MOLECULES AND EVEN AIR ARE THINGS WE CANNOT PERCEIVE WITH OUR OWN EYES
ALL THE EVIDENCE WE HAVE FOR THEM COMES FROM SCIENCE.
IT'S REALLY NOTHING BUT IF YOU DO THIS, THIS HAPPENS, WHICH MUST MEAN THIS
DERIVED FROM LOOKING BACK AT MOUNDS OF PAST OBSERVATIONS
IS NOTHING BUT AN ENORMOUS MOUNTAIN OF GUESSWORK,
BUT ALL THE EVIDENCE THAT SCIENCE PRODUCES,

I TOLD YOU!!
I'M NOT HERE TO LISTEN TO YOUR LECTURE!!
bam
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THE BRILLIANT IDEAS COMING OUT OF THAT BRAIN OF YOURS!
WHICH IS WHY, WITHOUT PRODIGIOUS MINDS,
IT'LL PROBABLY BE DIFFICULT FOR HUMANS TO PURSUE ANY FURTHER DRAMATIC EVOLUTION.
WHAT WE CALL SCIENCE IS ONLY CONJECTURE BASED ON THE CONSISTENCIES OF DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW.
BEFORE ALBERT EINSTEIN'S PROOFS SHOWED THAT THE UNIVERSE EXISTS AS A VACUUM,
MANKIND READILY BELIEVED IN INEXPLICABLE THINGS LIKE AETHER
THIS ILLUSTRATES THAT HUMAN BRAINS ARE UNABLE TO COMPREHEND TRUE LOGIC
科学

MR. POLICEMAN, NO NEED TO BE SO MODEST...
DON'T YOU ALSO HAVE AN INTACT BRAIN?
IN FACT..
MR POLICE-MAN...
JUST NEEDS TO CONNECT IT TOGETH-ER..

*TN NOTE - BRASSICORAPHANUS: A HYBRID OF CABBAGE AND RADISH.
"PLANTS ARE ALIVE"...
YOU HEAR THIS OFTEN, RIGHT?
IF WE APPLY THAT IDEA TO HOUSE PETS, ANIMAL RIGHT ACTIVISTS WOULD IMMEDIATELY OPPOSE IT.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE SAME IDEA IF YOU LOOK AT IT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF "PRUNING AND SELECTIVELY BREEDING LIVING THINGS",
HAVE YOU HEARD OF A RADICOLE*?
IT'S A CROSS-BREED OF WHITE RADISH AND CABBAGE.
IT'S COMMON IN THE WORLD OF PLANTS.
IT'S LIKE PLANT CUTTING OR GRAFTING*
IT COMBINES THE BEST INDIVIDUAL QUALITIES
COMBINING THINGS THAT POSSESS DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS WITH OTHER THINGS THAT ALSO POSSESS DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS TO GAIN EVEN BETTER RESULTS AND EXPEDITE THE PROCESS OF EVOLUTION
*TL NOTE - IN HORTICULTURE, CUTTING IS THE PROCESS OF GROWING NEW PLANTS FROM CUT STEMS AND BRANCHES. GRAFTING IS THE PROCESS OF ATTACHING DIFFERENT BRANCHES TO OTHER PLANTS.

BUT NO ONE SAYS A WORD ABOUT DOING THAT TO PLANTS.
HOW STRANGE.
THEN, IF WE WERE TO USE HUMAN VEGETABLES FOR EXPERIMENTS...
HOPEFULLY NO ONE WOULD INTERVENE
ETHICS ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A GAME OF LANGUAGE
THEY OFTEN SAY THAT THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN GENIUS AND MADNESS...
IT'S ALL A GAME...
BUT WITHOUT A DOUBT, I SENSE THAT THIS GUY— IS M.D.
SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY...
ARE MERELY FACULTIES THAT THE BRAIN USES TO AMUSE ITSELF

DON'T YOU FEEL THAT LIFE IS REALLY DELIGHTFUL?
snigger
snigger
YET, THERE IS AN ATTRACTIVE FORCE THAT FEELS IRRESISTIBLE TO PEOPLE...
grip
EVEN FOR ME, WHO HAS SEEN MORE THAN HIS SHARE OF CARNAGE...
IT WAS MY FIRST TIME SEEING THAT.
THAT'S RIGHT, THE FEELING I GOT FROM THAT GUY — CALLING IT MAGIC WOULDN'T BE AN EXAGGERATION.
A FACE LAUGHING SO HAPPILY LIKE A CHILD...
BUT DEEP IN HIS HEART...

A DEMONIC
SMILE LEERING AT
HUMANKIND.

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NIGHT 106
A CUCKOO, SINGING TO THE MOON
PART 9

In his first year of university, he is slowly becoming a mad genius within his school club.
Urushibara Akemi
His goal is taking the first step for a better future for humans
He begins to alter human's brain.
He vaults into the forbidden realm in order to do so
Accelerating the human evolution.

HERE IT IS,
THIS IS A COMPANY OWNED BY ONE OF THE CLUB MEMBER'S PARENTS
I AM AFRAID THIS IS NOW HIS LABORA-TORY...
HA-SHITA-SAN,
THIS ELEVATOR ONLY GOES UP TO FLOOR 45
I AM SURE THERE ARE AT LEAST 80 FLOORS HERE.
YA.
ALL THE FLOORS BELOW ARE FOR PUBLIC LEASE,
this is a store used elevator
HOWEVER, IF ANYONE USES THOSE ELEVATORS, THE CAMER-AS INSIDE
THERE SHOULD BE OTHER ELEVATORS THAT REACH FLOOR 46 AND UP..
WILL ALERT HIM ABOUT INVADERS

Go ask for the key from security
ALL RIGHT, LET'S RIDE TO THE ROOF AND WE WILL WALK DOWN FROM THE EMERGENCY STAIRCASE.
ROGER.
R
14
13
12
.....
beep
R
R

CREEK
STOMP
STOMP
SHOCK
WHAT
WHAT IS
THIS?

THE MAN WHO MADE SUCH A MESS OF THE CHILDREN'S LIVES... THEIR VERY BEING...
TO CALL HIM "NORMAL"!!
EXTREMELY SAD AND CRUEL CASE.
THIS IS AN UNUSUAL
BUT THE MOST SHOCKING THING IS THE MAIN CULPRITS MENTAL DIAGNOSES IS "NORMAL"

haa
haa
OK....
COME OVER HERE
crumble
crumble
crunch
looks
(error)
(error)
(isd:provider type="java" scope="Application"
?
HELLO...? I AM HERE TO SAVE YOU...

I THINK I AM
BECOMING A BIT CRAZY HERE.
SHATTER SHATTER
OH WELCOME, HASHITA-SAN.
I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.

DID YOU SEE IT?
IT IS PART OF OUR RESEARCH.
FROM A UNIVERSITY'S LEVEL OF RESEARCH, WE CAN ONLY ACHIEVED THIS LITTLE.....
I GUESS I AM JUST A NORMAL PERSON
IF YOU SAW THAT,
HASHI-TA!
SPIN
YOU ARE PART OF US NOW?
LET US
PLAY TO-GETHER.
IF WE DON'T GET TRICKED WE WILL NEVER LEARN.
IF WE DON'T PLAY THERE WILL BE NO FUN IN LIVING.
PEOPLE HOPE TO KEEP THEIR CHILD'S MENTALITY AFTER THEY BECOME ADULTS
THEY SAW THE LIGHT OF THE FUTURE.
SINCE THE ERA BEGAN AS DESCRIBED IN THE BOOK "RYOUJIN-HISHOU", HUMANKIND IS PLAYING WITHIN A GAME,

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?
THIS IS ONE OF MY COLLECTION, IT IS A VALUABLE ANTIQUE, THIS IS A BRAINWAVE MACHINE WIDELY SOLD IN THE BEGINNING OF YEAR 2000
WITHOUT USING YOUR HAND YOU CAN OPERATE CALCULATOR USING BRAIN WAVES... IT REPLACES THE USE OF A MOUSE
IT LOOKS LIKE IT READS THE EYE AND MUSCLE'S MOVEMENT TO DETERMINE THE ALPHA WAVE AND BETA WAVE,
AND THEN IT DISTRIBUTES THE WAVES TO THE KEYS SO IT CAN OPERATE...
BUT NORMAL PEOPLE CANNOT CONTROL ALPHA AND BETA WAVES
UNLESS THEY ARE NEW TYPE OF HUMAN SHOWN IN ACTION MOVIES
THERE ARE A LOT OF SIMILAR ITEMS,
LIKE THIS,
AND THOSE
IT IS USED TO DIAGNOSE ALZHEIMER'S AND OTHER NEW FOUND DISEASES.
FOR COMPARISON, THIS IS DIFFERENT THAN AN AMERICAN MEDICAL ORGANIZATION,
THIS IS MACHINE CREATED FOR THE GAME

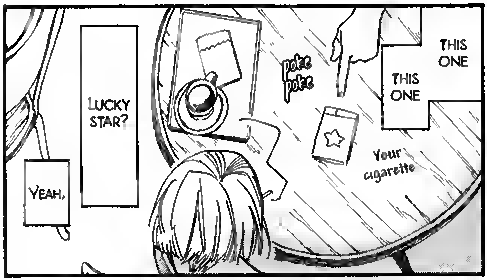
AND OPENS OUR DOOR OF "EVOLUTION".
THIS POINTLESS MACHINE BECOMES KEYS...

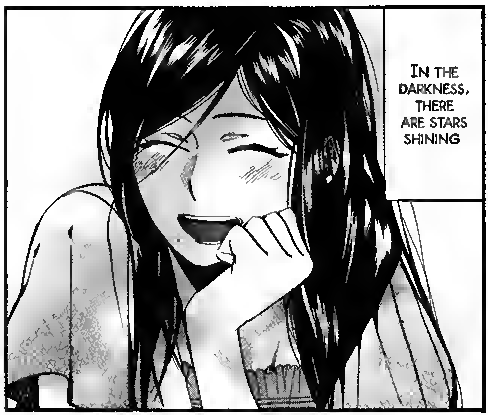
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN..!!

HA-SHITA-SAN,
DO YOU THINK THIS WORLD IS FULL OF DESPAIR?
WE ARE JAILED WITHIN A HALF CIRCULAR CONTAINER SUBMERGE IN A DARK WATER.

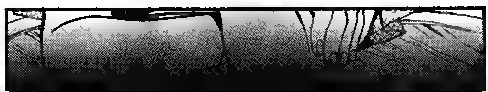
hmmf

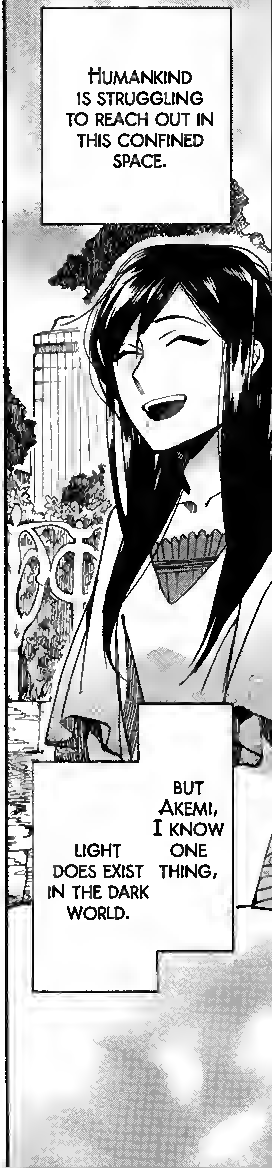
HALF OF THE WORLD IS LIT UP BY THE SUN — THE DARKNESS WHERE THE SUN IS ABSENT,
IS MOSTLY UNDER THE OCEAN.
THAT'S RIGHT.
NO ONE CAN FREELY MOVE,
I ONCE MENTIONED THIS TO A FEMALE FRIEND AND SHE SAID, "DO YOU MEAN THE EARTH"?





THE WORLD TODAY IS STILL HOPING FOR STARLIGHT.





I WANT TO BE HER STAR LIGHT
RIGHT NOW SHE IS IN A PIT OF DARKNESS BECAUSE OF HER FAMILY,
SHE IS ALSO MY FIRST LOVE
SHE IS A BEAUTIFUL PERSON,

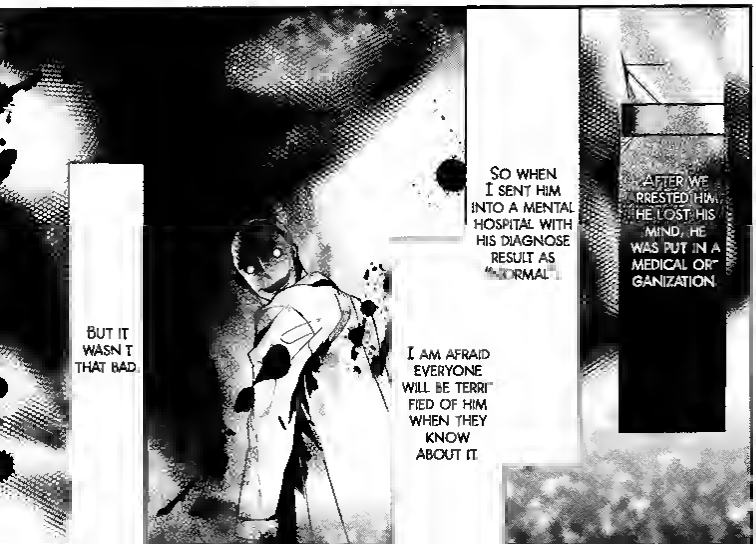
THIS SONG,
HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH SHE IS SMART AND BEAUTIFUL,
SHE GOT ONE THING WRONG

THE WORLD IS
FILLED WITH
DESPAIR
WHAT I AM TALKING ABOUT IS
I AM NOT TALKING ABOUT THE SOLAR SYSTEM.
HALF DOME SHAPE

WE ARE CONSTRAINED
THE HUMAN BRAIN.
IN THE DARKNESS UNDER WATER

OUR COLLEAGUES, EVERYONE IS LIKE A SUPERIOR GENETIC SAMPLE BOX.
SHE IS VERY BRILLIANT,
NO, NOT JUST HER
LONG LIVES, HIGHER IMMUNE SYSTEM, BETTER BODY STRUCTURE, STRONGER MEMORY.....
SUPERIOR GENETICS DO EXISTS
IT IS MORE IN DEPTH THAN GOD.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND, HASHIBA?
THE BRAIN IS MORE MYSTERIOUS THAN SPACE.
PEOPLE WHO ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP NEW ABILITYS BY FOLLOWING THE RULE OF "HUMAN BRAINS CAN ONLY USE 10% OF THEIR POWER" WILL NEVER SUCCEED.
THIS IS BECAUSE WE ARE RELYING ON THE BRAIN'S COMMAND
BECAUSE THEY THEMSELVES HAVE NOT USE THE OTHER 90% OF THEIR BRAIN.
HOWEVER, NO MATTER HOW SUPERIOR YOUR GENETICS ARE, AS LONG AS WE ARE PUT IN THIS "HUMAN" CONTAINER, WE ARE LIMITED TO "10% OF OUR ABILITIES"
I CAN SEE THE FUTURE,
I CAN SEE THE FUTURE WHERE WE HAVE BETTER CONTAINERS THAN HUMANS
IT CAN ONLY EVER USE 10% OF IT'S POWER.
THE BRAIN IS PUT INTO SUCH A CRAPPY HUMAN CONTAINER,

I FEEL EXTREMELY
TERRIFIED.
...NO.
THAT GUY'S WORDS AND ACTIONS ARE ABSOLUTELY CRAZY.
BUT EVERY PSYCHIATRISTS CANNOT FIND ANYTHING WRONG WITHIN HIS MIND
—BECAUSE OF THAT
HE CAN'T EVEN SPEAK ANY JAPANESE.
DOES NOT CRY OR LAUGH THIS KIND OF CHILDREN ARE WHAT YOU WANT FOR THE FUTURE?
ANSWER ME!! URUSHIHARA!!


BUT IT WASN'T THAT BAD.
I AM AFRAID EVERYONE WILL BE TERRIFIED OF HIM WHEN THEY KNOW ABOUT IT.
SO WHEN I SENT HIM INTO A MENTAL HOSPITAL WITH HIS DIAGNOSE RESULT AS "NORMAL".
AFTER WE ARRESTED HIM, HE LOST HIS MIND, HE WAS PUT IN A MEDICAL ORGANIZATION.

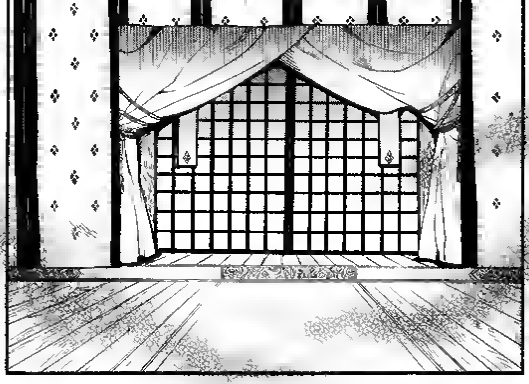
tap
grip
grip
LET'S GO IN.
YA.
IN REALITY,
THE ONLY PERSON THAT IS TERRIFIED, IS ME.

step
step
step
thump
thump
thump
HMMM...

TOK!
BEFORE I EXISTED AS UTSUBUSHI IN AMATSUKI,
THE LAST MEMORY OF HASHITA,
IT WAS AT THE BAKUMA-TSUJIJUN KAITEN.
stare
...I THOUGHT,
I HEARD IT WRONG,
BUT IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE IT.
YOU BUILD
AN EX-CESSIVE FACILITY.
Yeah?
BECAUSE IT IS SUCH AN AMBITION YOU SHOULD FEEL VERY HAPPY RIGHT?
BUT STILL...
IT IS SO HUGE THAT IT BECAME UNREACHA-BLE.
THIS IS CON-CERNING.
THIS VOICE...
huff

IS IT....
THIS IS THE KEY TO BAKU-MATSU-JIJUN KAITEN. IT IS POSSIBLE.
I HEARD IT BACK THEN, THAT VOICE..
THE PERSON WHO CREATED AMATSUKI IS PROBABLY,
HIM.
THAT VOICE IS URUSHI-BARA,
I CAN'T BE MIS-TAKEN.

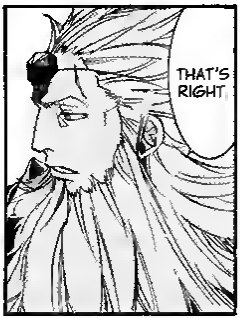
THE PERSON THAT CREATED AMATSUKI?
I AM NOT SURE WHAT THE BAKUMATSUJIJUN KAITEN AND AMATSUKI HAVE TO DO WITH EACH OTHER.
BUT,
THAT PLACE AND HERE ARE VERY SIMILAR.
THAT'S BECAUSE SHINSHU IS THAT GUY'S DAUGHTER,
RIRI
THEN, THAT PERSON IS
TEITEN...?
THIS DEMON LIKE PERSON
NO NO
drop
IT IS NOT RIGHT
IT IS SHAMEFUL
I DID EVERYTHING TO RAISE HIM
SO, LIKE THIS



I SAW THIS IN GINSHU'S MEMORY
IN THE PAST OF SHINSHU'S ROOM...

gasp
THIS PLACE...
OH.

THE PLACE THAT HELD RIRI FELT THE SAME


THAT'S RIGHT

CAN NOT POSSIBLY CREATE THIS WORLD.

THAT GUY,
THAT GINSHU...
NO, IT IS AFTER HE AND BYAKUROKU MERGED!!
HE PICKED ME...
URUSHIBARA AND HIM ARE THE SAME
EVEN IN THIS PLACE, WHY
ARE YOU STAYING NEXT TO THAT KIND OF PERSON, RIRI...!!!
HASHITA-SAN!

NO,
CAN YOU NOT HEAR IT?
NO MATTER HOW YOU HEAR IT.
IT SOUNDS,
LIKE
A CRY
FOR HELP

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by TAKAYAMA Shinobu

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NIGHT 107
A CUCKOO, SINGING TO THE MOON PART 10

NIGHT 107
A CUCKOO, SINGING TO THE MOON
PART 10

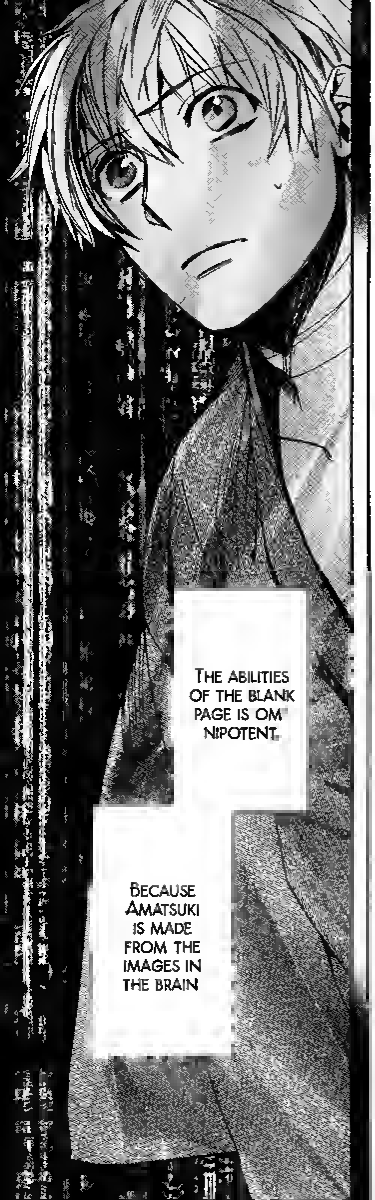
TOKI? ARE YOU OKAY...?
LOSING KON AND KUCHIHA ONCE BEFORE,
I SEE THEM OVER AND OVER
THOSE DREAMS, WHERE I CAN ONLY SQUIRM IN THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR,
IT'S BECOME JUMBLED UP IN MY HEART.
...THAT I WASN'T OF ANY USE,
ALMOST HAVING EVERYONE ELSE LOSE THEIR LIVES,
YEAH
HMM

I'VE ONLY EXPERIENCED THAT LEVEL OF SUFFERING
EVEN I THINK IT'S PATHETIC.
OVER, AND OVER.
AND FEEL MORE HELPLESS
BUT I GET TRAPPED IN MY TRAUMA
...THINGS WEIGH DOWN ON PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT WAYS...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY THAT LEVEL.
!
IT'S A GIVEN FOR THIS TO HAPPEN.
LIKE YOU SAY, IF SHINSHU-CHAN WAS 'RIRI-CHAN',
YEAH

THE WORD "TRAUMA", TOO,
IS PROBABLY A LUKEWARM SCAR ON THE HEART
THIS PLACE,
AND THE EXISTENCE OF A FATHER
!!!
THAT'S...
THIS PLACE ISN'T A DREAM
THAT SHINONOME DENIED IT
THEN IT HAS TO BE THAT

That action that Kon was talking about
In other words, "she can read Heaven's Net"
Shinonome is capable of the same thing as Bonten
He was right.

A STUBBORN GENIUS.
THE SENSAI CORPORATION, WHICH DEALT WITH BRAIN WAVES.
THE EDO EXHIBIT.
I'M WORRIED ABOUT SHINONOME TOO.
BUT RIGHT NOW,
THE TRUE FORM OF AMATSUKI IS MORE IMPORTANT.
IF WHAT HASHITA-SAN TOLD ME CONNECTS EVERYTHING
I CAN FAINTLY
SEE THE BIG PICTURE.
THE CHILD PRODIGY, RIRI-CHAN.
HER TRAUMA HAS TAKEN FORM HERE LIKE THIS.
IF WE REALIZE WHAT THE REASON IS,
WE'LL UNDERSTAND THE REASON FOR HER POWERFUL ABILITIES IN AMATSUKI, TOO.

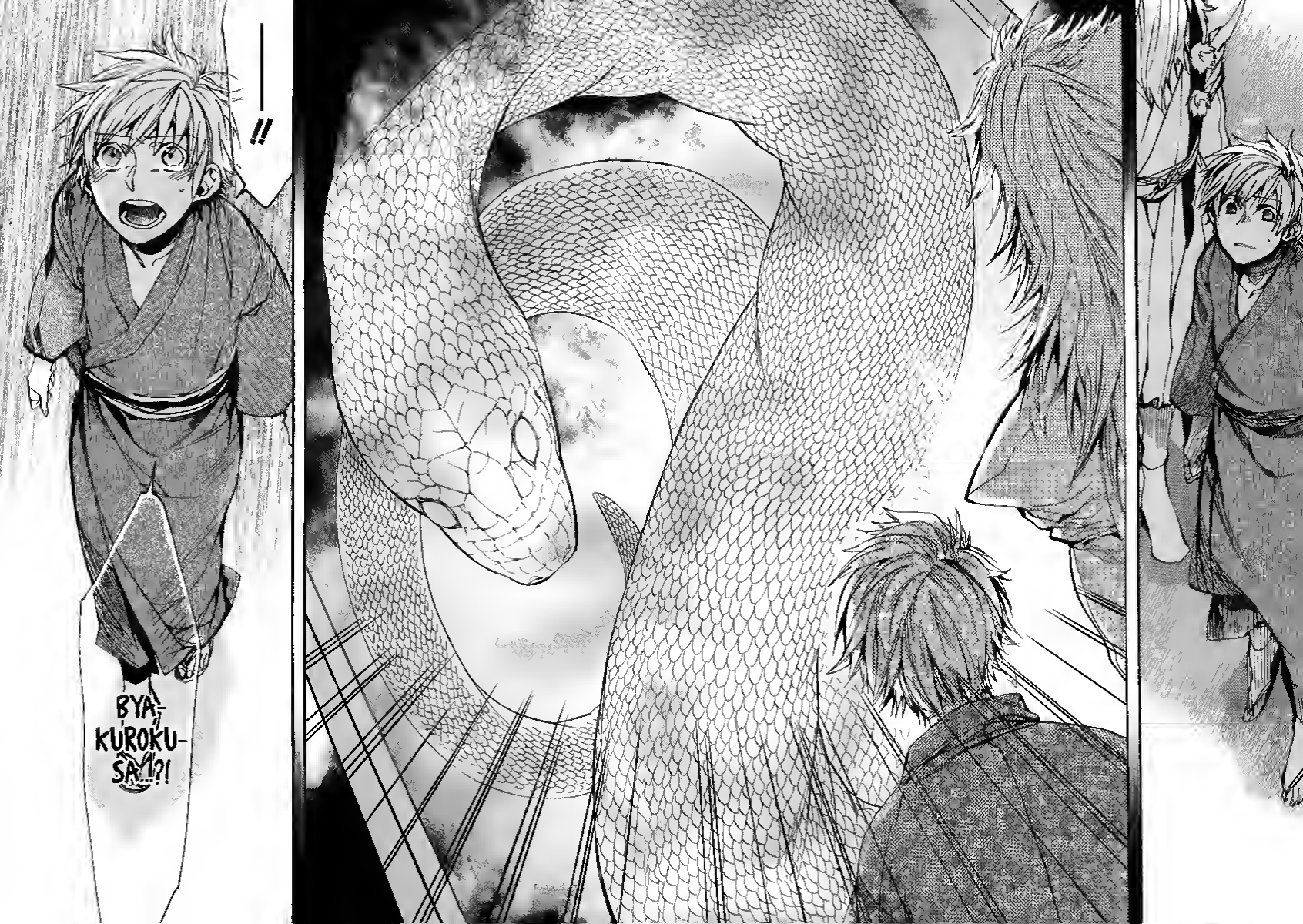


INSIDE HER BRAIN.

I'M SURE THIS PLACE IS,

PEOPLE'S EYES,
SEE THE WORLD AS THEY WANT TO
IT'S THE MIND.
IT'S NOT THE EYES THAT PEOPLE VIEW THE WORLD WITH.
IF SENSAI PICKS UP IMAGES FROM THE MIND,
AND MATERIALIZES THEM,
A LOT OF THINGS WOULD MAKE SENSE.

NO, THAT CAN'T BE.
LIKE THEY DO WITH THE EDO EXHIBIT?
ARE THEY OVER-LAPPING IMAGES OVER REALITY
THIS ISN'T SOMEONE'S DREAM
BUT STILL, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT TO BE REALITY AS IS.
THAT GAP-LIKE WORLD
THE SEN-SATION OF THIS HAND,
squeeze
I THINK IT'S REAL
ONE MORE STEP..
ONE MORE MOVE,
AND I WOULD KNOW


!!
BYA-
KUROKU-
SA...?!

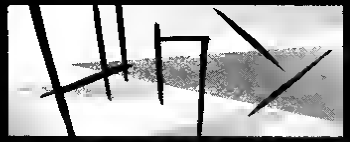
NO, IT'S NOT?
IT'S KIND OF SMA..
WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
GIN-SHU-SA..
I'M SUR-PRISED YOU WERE ABLE TO COME IN THIS FAR.

PRIN-
CESS...
AHH, IT'S FINE. IT'S OKAY.
BOTH OF YOU, THIS WAY PLEASE.
!?
IT'S DANGER OUS HERE.
THERE IS A LOT OF MIASMA FROM MANY GHOSTS BUILT UP HERE
I WILL OFFER YOU SOME TEA.
IN THAT ROOM OVER THERE.
PLEASE.

...GINSHU-SAN, THEN...

?
?
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?

AREN'T YOU GUYS OUR ENEMIES...?
HA HA HA.


ザワン

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I AM GINSHU, ONE WHO LIVES FOR OTHERS.

THAT'S RIGHT.
IT WAS DEFINITELY THERE IN GINSHU-SAN'S MEMORIES, TOO.

MY ENEMIES ARE OBVIOUSLY,
GHOSTS

A ROOM TO CONFINE PEOPLE IN.
PRIEST ESSES WHO USED OTHERS
THE PAST GINSHUS, HOW THEY DEALT WITH SHINSHU.
THE GHOSTS WHO ARE CAPTURED AND USED
ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR SHIN-SHU?

YEAH, THE SAME THING WAS BEING DONE IN "AMATSUKI".

I KNEW IT. SHINSHU-CHAN DIDN'T COME HERE BECAUSE SHE WANTED TO.

HASHITA-SAN...
YEAH.
THE DEPTH OF THAT DARK-NESS, THE GLOOM.
WE HAVE TO SAVE HER.
THIS PLACE IS NO GOOD.
WHAT'S WRONG?
COME THIS WAY.
YOU'RE THE SAME AS US.
IF SHINSHU-CHAN STAYS IN A PLACE LIKE THIS, HER HEART IS JUST GOING TO BE CUT TO PIECES..!!
ARE WOUNDS IN HER HEART.
THAT'S TAKEN ON THE FORM OF GINSHU-SAN BUT IT'S NOT THEM

GINSHU-SAN'S HEART IS BY MY SIDE!
OH?
DO YOU PLAN TO FIGHT?
I
AGAINST ME?

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EXTRA CHAPTER
flip
MM, LOOKS GOOD
IT GOES WELL WITH YOUR MESSY HAIR

BUT I'M FEELING SO MUCH BETTER!
YOU SIMPLY DON'T FEEL THE PAIN BECAUSE OF THE ANESTHETIC I JUST USED.
YOU CAN'T MOVE YET.
YOU BASICALLY RECEIVED BURNS THROUGHOUT YOUR ENTIRE BODY
...MORE IMPORTANTLY, MY WOUNDS...
Heh
Heh.
Heh
...
IF YOU PUSH YOURSELF WITH THAT BODY, YOU'LL BLEED OUT FROM EVERY PORE OF YOUR SKIN.
NOW, NOW, DON'T GET SO ANGRY, AINEZU.
THIS IS THE LOVELY HEART OF A YOUNG GIRL
HII-SAMA!
!?
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT RIKUGOU-DONO, AREN'T YOU?!
I UNDERSTAND YOUR DESIRE TO CHASE AFTER HIM.

!?
The pure love of one who yearns for their beloved man!
WH-WH-WH-WH-WH-WHAT ARE YOU, WH-WH-WHAT?!
Huh?
D-D-D-D-D-D-DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!
WHO WOULD LOVE A GUY LIKE THAT?!
OH, I'M SORRY WAS IT KON-DONO YOU LOVED??
OF COURSE NOT!
COME ON-- HII-SAMA! DON'T PLAY WITH AN INJURED PERSON!
SO, WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH YOU THREE EXACTLY?
I CAN'T REALLY TELL JUST FROM LOOKING~

I... DON'T KNOW,
WHAT COUNTS AS A FRIEND.
EH? REALLY?
BUT WE'RE NOT NECESSARILY FRIENDS.
...WE'RE KIND OF... TOGETHER...
I-
I'M NOT SURE.. EITHER...!
ぽかーん
AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY WOULD SAY, EITHER!
W-WOULDN'T I LOOK STUPID IF I WAS THE ONLY TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?!
RIKUGOU-DONO ALWAYS, ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT YOU AND KON-DONO.
NO MATTER THE DANGER, OR HOW RECKLESS HE HAD TO BE, HE OVERCAME THEM FOR YOU TWO.

AND THAT GOES FOR YOU AND KON-DONO AS WELL, RIGHT?
WHETHER THEY BE HUMAN OR GHOST, IT'S RARE TO FIND ONE,
WHO WOULD GIVE UP THEIR OWN EXISTENCE AND ACCEPT YOU
ATTACHING A TITLE TO SUCH A RELATIONSHIP IS BOORISH.
.....
LET US HURRY AND CHASE AFTER THOSE TWO
Before matters are settled with fate...
END

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NIGHT 108
A CUCKOO, SINGING TO THE MOON
PART II

Do you...
Intend to fight me?
!!
ぶるっ

WHAT? A NUE?!
THAT OLD LADY WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE CAPTURED THE NUE.
ALTHOUGH A "NUE" IS A CHIMERA MIXED WITH MANY ANIMALS,
MORE ACCURATELY, IT'S AN UNIDENTIFIABLE GHOST.

THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE NUE IS,
"MAN'S TERROR".
THOUGH IT'S INVISIBLE,
YOU HEAR THE ROAR OF A BEAST RINGING FROM AFAR.
A GROAN.
A NEVER BEFORE HEARD THUNDEROUS ROAR.
IT'S A PHANTOM.
IN THE ERA WHEN THERE WAS A MOUNTAIN RIGHT NEARBY, THAT VOICE THAT COULD BE HEARD IN THE DARK OF NIGHT,
PROBABLY INSTILLED "FEAR" DEEP IN THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE.

HASHITA-SAN,
THAT'S A DIFFERENT NUE.
HUH?!
THE NUE IS A GHOST THAT'S TERROR TAKEN FORM
ORIGINALLY, THAT,
IS SOMETHING THAT'S BORN FROM WITHIN PEOPLE.
これは 人の恐しゃないか
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES WE DEFEAT IT, BECAUSE IT HAS A LARGE BIRTHING SOURCE,
IT WON'T DIE.
SO,
THAT MEANS —?!
AND THIS
IS RIGHT SMACK IN THE MIDDLE OF SHINSHU-CHAN'S TRAUMA!!

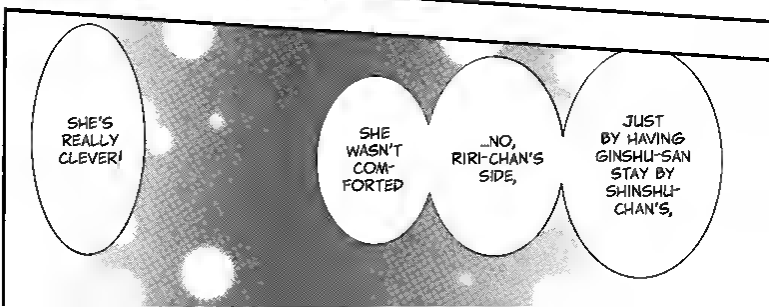
THEY'LL KEEP COMING OUT!!
WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THIS?!
WHAT DO WE DO?!
For now...

LET'S RUN FOR IT!!
First, we have to find Shinshu-chan,
And comfort her...!!
WILL THE NUE DISAPPEAR IF WE DO THAT?
YEAH, PROBABLY
TOKI,
UMM...
THE SPIRIT THAT USED TO BE SHINSHU'S OLDER BROTHER IS STILL BY YOUR SIDE, RIGHT?
!!

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
CALLING HIM AND ASKING HIM TO GIVE US A HAND IS-
IF WE LEAVE IT TO HIM, SHINSHU WILL CALM DOWN.
THAT'S GOOD.
YEAH.
I-
I SEE
PULL
YOU DO IT.
HASHITA-SAN!!
YOU!!

IS SOMEONE THAT MIGHT BE ABLE TO COMFORT HER
IT'S TRUE THAT FOR SHINSHU-CHAN, GINSHU-SAN— NO, AYAME-SAN,

MAN'S TERROR, GIVES BIRTH TO GHOSTS.
BUT EVEN WITH AYAME-SAN BY HER SIDE, SHINSHU-CHAN WAS STILL BREAKING APART.
AND THE NUMBER OF GHOSTS JUST KEPT INCREASING, RIGHT?


SHE'S REALLY CLEVER!
SHE WASN'T COMFORTED
...NO, RIRI-CHAN'S SIDE,
JUST BY HAVING GINSHU-SAN STAY BY SHINSHU-CHAN'S,

SHE KNEW THE PEACE OF SINKING INTO THE MUD WOULDN'T MAKE HER HAPPY.
Dad!!
YOU HAVE TO PULL HER OUT!!
SHE KNEW, THAT THAT WASN'T WHERE SHE BELONGED

I WONDER WHAT SORT OF PERSON MY FATHER WAS.
HOW MANY TIME WAS I TOUCHED BY HIS HANDS THESE PAST FEW YEARS?
ARE HIS HANDS THIS STRONG?
DO HIS EYES,
WITH THIS MUCH LOVE?
OVER-FLOW,

PEOPLE ARE LIKE MIRRORS
IF YOU DON'T SEEK THEM OUT,
THEY WON'T RECIPROCATE

As much as Hashita-san thinks of her,
Riri-chan seeks out Hashita-san to the same degree.

WHAT'S GOING ON INSIDE?
!...
TOKI'S PRESENCE STARTED MOVING ALL OVER THE PLACE.
HE'S RUNNING AWAY OR SOME-THING.
THEN WE HAVE TO HELP THEM...!!
BUT HIS PRESENCE IS REALLY WEIRD.
IT BREAKS SOME-TIMES
EVEN IF THEY'RE RUNNING AROUND, FOR A BUILDING THAT
THERE'S TOO MUCH OF A DIS-TANCE
IT'S PROBABLY A LABY-RINTH OF THE HALL AND MON-STERROAD IN THERE.

EVEN IF WE ENTER FROM THE SAME PLACE, I'M NOT SURE IF WE'LL BE ABLE TO MEET UP WITH THEM.
!
TOKI AND THE OLD MAN WENT IN.
FOLLOW THEM.
...WHAT?! WHY?
THERE'S... NO ENTRANCE!
HMM?

IT MEANS... WE WEREN'T CALLED FOR
TOK!!!
THAT IDIOT...
DON'T GO DYING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS..!
I'M DEAD!
I'M DEAD!
I'M DEAD!

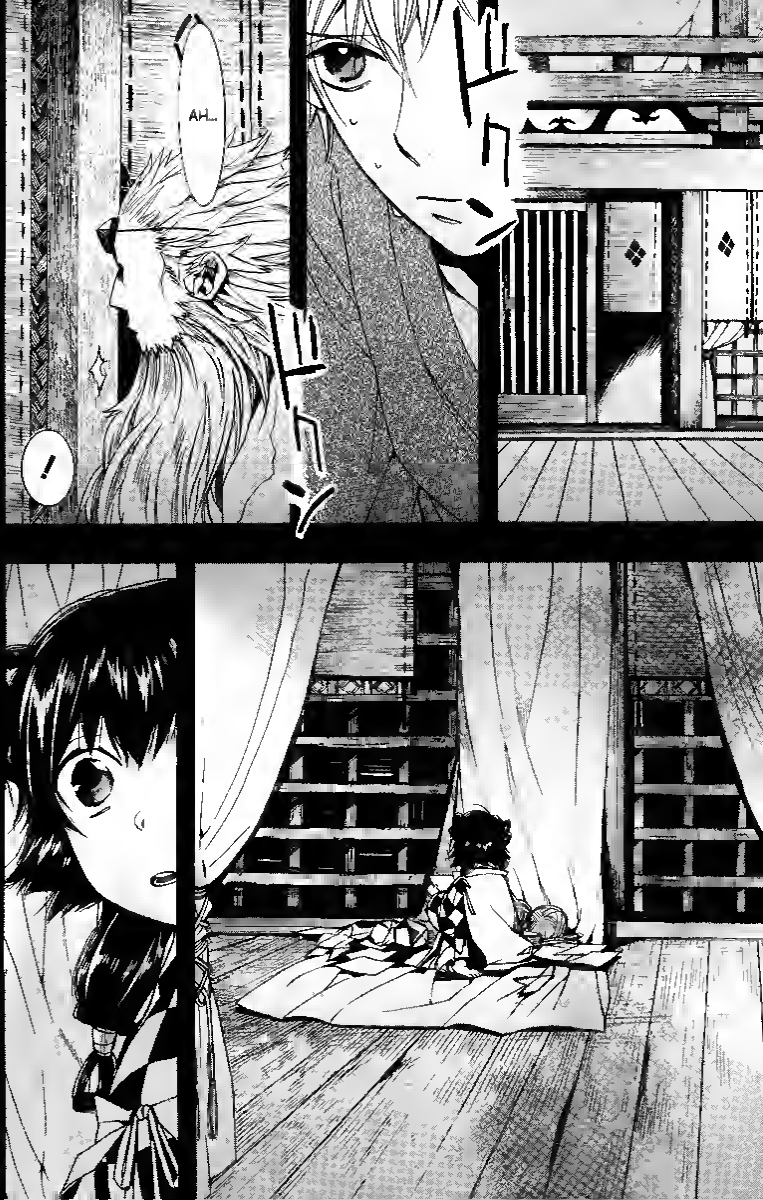
H-
HOW FAR DO WE HAVE TO RUN AWAY?!
THEY KEEP INCREASING IN NUMBERS!
Gya aaa ah!!
THIS KIND OF THING ALWAYS HAPPENS WITH YOU HASHITA-SAN!!
I...
I DON'T KNOW

THIS.. SORT OF LOOKS FAMILIAR...
WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT-EVER. LET'S CLIMB IT.
STAIRS...?
HAH.

THIS IS-
SAKA-GAMI SHRINE?!
!?

ARE THEY UNABLE TO COME IN BECAUSE THEY'RE BLOCKED BY A BARRIER?
ぐるる…
MAN, THIS IS LUCKY!!
huff
huff
Y-
YEAH.
IF SHE'S THE FOUNDATION, THIS IS THE PLACE...
PROBA-
BLY
COULD IT BE THAT SHINSHU'S IN HERE?

BUT...
WHAT IS THIS?
I GUESS THAT MAKES SENSE.
NO ONE'S HERE...


AH...
!

RIRI!!
SHINSHU-CHI...
WHAT IS THIS...
THIS STRANGE FEELING.
GOOD. WE'RE HERE TO PICK YOU UP!!
ARE YOU OKAY?

...!! HASHITA-SAN!!
NO!! THAT'S NOT HER!!
EH?

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